

Treutlen County Board of Education

GARY J. WALDEN, Superintendent

Treutlen County Schools are Accredited by the
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

202 Third Street
SOPERTON, GEORGIA 30457
(912) 529-4228

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

April 24, 1997

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am the superintendent from Treutlen County Schools, and I am writing to express my gratitude for the actions you have taken to ensure that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

Educators in our system are very concerned about preparing the workforce of tomorrow. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and, in our case, be able to continue to provide distance-learning opportunities. It is important to bring these services directly to the classroom where students learn. Thus, your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is crucial.

We currently have one dial-in connection to the Internet at two of our three schools. Needless to say, we cannot meet the needs of all our students with this limited access. These discounts would allow us to provide the wonderful resources available on the Information Superhighway to a greater numbers of students, a benefit magnified by our inaccessibility to more traditional resources that are available to schools in more populated parts of our state.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Walden

Gary J. Walden
Superintendent

Apr 24 6 36 PM '97

OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

April 22, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Chairman's Office

APR 24 6 36 PM '97

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

We are faculty and staff from BERRY ELEMENTARY in Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guaranteed that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and, importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discount is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Civen
Mary S. Benton

Sharon E. Cox

Denise K. Schell

Linda Hedgum

Kristin E. Keaton

Tia R. Wiley
(Katherine N. Jays)

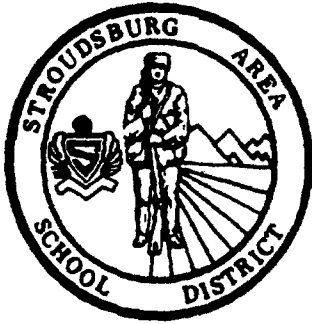
Cindy Cielo
Kathryn Stapleton

Linda Dunderberg

Lisa M. Long

Wendy M. Mott

Caren L. Melliken
R. L. Simon



STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

123 Linden Street
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18360

Telephone 717-421-1990 FAX 717-424-5986

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APR 24 2 10 PM '97

April 18, 1997

MAY 1 1997

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OFFICE OF
COMMUNICATIONS
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

Federal Communications Commission
National Commission

Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness,

I am a Director of Technology from the Stroudsburg Area School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have a affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

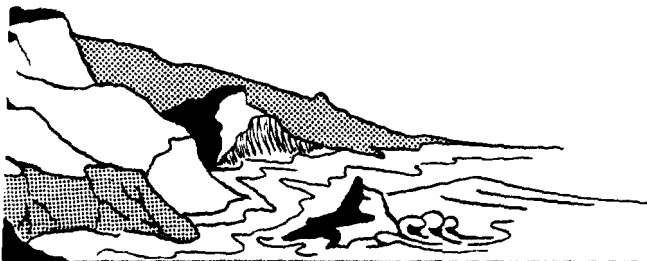
One of the goals of our long range technology plan is to provide students with access to the global community. Discounts provided by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 will lessen the financial burden on school districts in providing this most important communications medium.

On behalf of the Stroudsburg Area School District, I wish to thank you for your continued support in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Clark
Director of Technology

cc: Patricia Tancredi



Lucia Mar Unified School District

602 ORCHARD ST. • ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93429
(805) 473-4390 • FAX (805) 481-1398

ARROYO GRANDE

NIPOMO

GROVER BEACH

OCEANO

PISMO BEACH

April 21, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

RR: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to vote positively for the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program, which is coming before the FCC for a decision in early May.

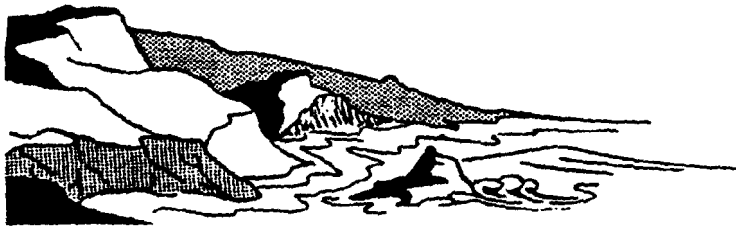
The obvious, increased need for better technology in our school systems, especially in terms of basic access to the Internet, is straining local school budgets. We are continually struggling to find the means to adequately support the onslaught of electronic communications. The "E-Rate" program could be a partial solution. It would positively impact thousands of our students in an area where training is now of paramount importance, if graduates are to compete in an increasingly complex world.

This seems to me a most sensible expenditure of federal funds from a government that has specifically called for increased communications literacy in the classroom. Please do all you can to see that this program is implemented.

Sincerely,

Carol Harvey
President
Board of Education

CH:sk



Lucia Mar Unified School District

602 ORCHARD ST., ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93420
(805) 473-4300 FAX (805) 481-1398

ARROYO GRANDE

NIPOMO

GROVER BEACH

OCEANO

PISMO BEACH

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 21, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Commissioner

APR 24 2 24 PM '97
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

RR: CC Docket No. 96-45

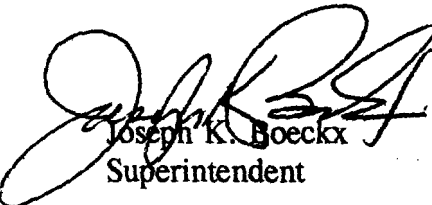
Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to vote positively for the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program, which is coming before the FCC for a decision in early May.

The obvious, increased need for better technology in our school systems, especially in terms of basic access to the Internet, is straining local school budgets. We are continually struggling to find the means to adequately support the onslaught of electronic communications. The "E-Rate" program could be a partial solution. It would positively impact thousands of our students in an area where training is now of paramount importance, if graduates are to compete in an increasingly complex world.

This seems to me a most sensible expenditure of federal funds from a government that has specifically called for increased communications literacy in the classroom. Please do all you can to see that this program is implemented.

Sincerely,


Joseph K. Boeckx
Superintendent

JKB:sk

Ontario-Montclair

School District

950 West D Street, Ontario, California 91762 • (909) 459-2502, Ext. 4445 • FAX (909) 459-2542

April 21, 1997

Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Ness:

It is so very evident in this day and age that telecommunication service is an absolute necessity in the educational dream of the future. The potential of implementing the Telecommunication Act of 1996 would be significant to our district.

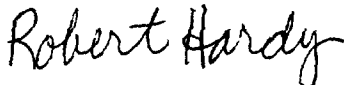
The Ontario-Montclair School District is considered to be an impoverished district and would therefore, be a considerable benefactor should the Telecommunications Act be approved.

Such passage will allow our young people the opportunity to become appreciably more involved with the concept in question. It is our thrust to provide as great an exposure as is possible.

Without doubt, any youngster having this opportunity to become familiar with and embrace telecommunications will be much better prepared to succeed in this era.

Your positive response will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Robert Hardy, Clerk
Board of Trustees

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

APR 24

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EX PARTS ON LATE FILE

JAMES DOWNS

President

DOREEN McDANIEL

Vice President

ROBERT HARDY

Clerk

DAVID VAN FLEET

Member

PAUL VINCENT AVILA

Member

FRANK A. COSCA, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

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OFFICE OF
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SUSAN NESS

APR 24 2 24 PM '97

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of General Counsel

**Millington Elementary School
172 Sassafras Street
Millington, MD 21651**

**Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554**

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

The Faculty and staff of Millington Elementary School in Kent County Maryland would like you to include us as among the supporters of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board. We believe that it is vital to the future welfare and opportunities of our students that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We hope that the FCC will fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

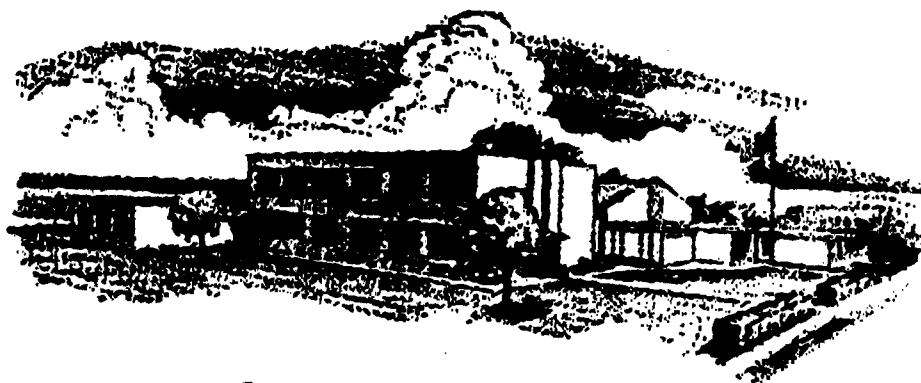
Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Joseph S. Maxey
Judith Colema
Lusie Davis
Janet L. Horseback
Anna Burns
Linda S. Taylor
Cawn M. Webb*

*[Signature]
Carmy A.H. Bennett
Joseph H. Miller
Dean Friedman
Ed Silver
Ann C. Coan
Beverly H. Jones
Ellen VanCulen
Deborah A. Smith*

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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 Gaylon Sleter, Director
 Gregory E. Westlund, Director
 Susan Davis, Business Manager



Mark M. Lindahl, H. S. Pr

Wayne Denault, Elem. Pr

Cando Public School

April 25, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
 Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M. Street, NW Room 832
 Washington, DC 20554

Southern School District No. 8
 418 2nd Avenue
 P.O. Box 489

Cando, North Dakota 58324-0489

Lewis A. Getz, Superintendent

701-968-4418

Fax: 701-968-4418

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

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 APR 25 10 39 AM '97
 OFFICE OF
 THE SECRETARY
 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a school secretary from the Cando Public School District #8, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The 2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of Internet classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In Cando, we are in the process of wiring our school for internet access. As you know, this is a big expenditure for a district with 345 students K-12. The possibilities I see for our students with Internet access is endless, but costly. Telecommunication providers should not capitalize on our schools or our children. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications service this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely

Nicole Miller
 School Secretary
 Cando Public School



Administrative Office

APR 25 11 38 AM '97
OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

April 24, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner:

As the superintendent of Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and will provide distance-learning opportunities at a discounted rate. The school portion, \$ 2.25 billion a year, will ensure that the needs of our students, and schools are met.

Our district is currently one of the eight pilot sites funded through the South Carolina Two-Way Video Distance Learning Project. This plan would reduce the cost of continuing this initiative and would also enable us to expand these services and opportunities through the savings projected.

This plan will enable us to bring those services directly to the classroom and to our students. Those discounts on inside connections, Internet access, installation and maintenance are essential as we plan for the upcoming fiscal budget. Your recommendation is an important part of this process.

Our school district needs these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I ask the FCC to support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter L. Tobin".

Walter L. Tobin
Superintendent

CC96-45

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

P.O. BOX 315

MOUNT VERNON, GEORGIA 30445-0315

JIM PAUL POOLE, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

TELEPHONE
(912) 583-2740 or
(912) 583-2450
FAX
(912) 583-4822

April 25, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Your vote and support to provide all schools with economical access to the information highway is greatly needed. Our district, along with many others cannot keep up with the expense of providing the best in technology opportunities for our students. Your vote to provide discounts for our districts and classroom will insure that students are prepared for the 21st century.

Thank you in advance for your support.

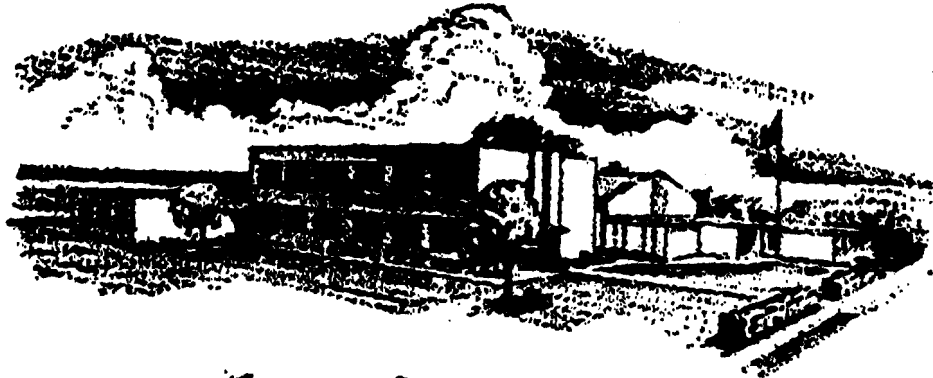
Sincerely,



Jim Paul Poole, Superintendent
Montgomery County Schools

REC'D
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
MAY 1 1997

BOARD OF EDUCATION
James E. Vondal, President
Bruce Olson, Vice President
James W. Howard, Director
Gaylon Sieler, Director
Gregory E. Westlund, Director
Susan Davis, Business Manager



Mark M. Lindahl, H. S. I
Wayne Densett, Elem. I

Cando Public School April 25, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

Southern School District No. 8
418 2nd Avenue
P.O. Box 489

Cando, North Dakota 58324-0489
Lewis A. Getz, Superintendent
701-968-4416
Fax: 701-968-4418

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

APR 25 10 33 AM '97
OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commission Ness:

I am a business manager from the Cando Public School District #8, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The 2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of Internet classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In Cando, we are in the process of wiring our school for internet access. As you know, this is a big expenditure for a district with 345 students K-12. The possibilities I see for our students with Internet access is endless, but costly. Telecommunication providers should not capitalize on our schools or our children. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications service this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely

Susan Davis
Business Manager
Cando Public School

MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

1065 East Avenue - Madison, Georgia 30650

Phone 706-342-0752

Fax 706-342-0505

MEMBERS OF BOARD
Innie Stapp, Chairman
Mark Argo
Mrs. Dorothy Cabaniss
Lifton Hanes
Mrs. Marie B. Martin

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER

10 33 AM '97

Patricia W. Stokes, Ph.D.
SuperintendentStanley W. DoJamen, Ph.D.
Director,
Curriculum & Instruction

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

As superintendent of the Morgan County Schools in Madison, Georgia, I am sincerely appreciative of your efforts to see that school districts and educational groups in our country can afford access to the Internet. We are considered leaders in the use of technology in the state of Georgia, and because of our rural location, this is an urgent issue. We do not have wide area access without long distance charges, and that can make use prohibitive.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Board decision would make it possible for all school districts to have an opportunity to connect our students in the classroom to the Internet. The educational opportunities of such a move are astounding. This move is essential to bring our schools to the high level of expectations placed on them by the public in a technology-laden work world.

We are in the process of installing a wide-area network among all our schools and the local library. These discounts would make educational use of the Internet available directly to our classrooms and to the general public who use our library in an affordable manner.

Without serious discounts, we will have to limit use of this incredible resource. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patricia W. Stokes
Superintendent

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Division of Policy and Research



"Uplifting Education"

Robert Shannon
Superintendent

Randall Watson
Asst. Superintendent
for Instruction

Perry McCabe
Asst. Superintendent
for Business

John Black
Director of
Special Education

McPherson Unified School District 418

514 North Main
McPherson, Kansas 67460
(316) 241-9400

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

On behalf of the Board of Education of McPherson USD 418, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

McPherson USD 418 has a plan for connecting all classrooms, labs, and offices to the Internet through our local cable television (Multimedia Cablevision) in conjunction with Southwestern Bell and an internet service provider. However, such services are very expensive and the ability to maintain them in the face of other needs is often difficult. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. On behalf of the Board of Education of McPherson USD 418, I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Perry McCabe, Assistant Superintendent
for Business

McPherson USD 418
514 North Main
McPherson, Kansas 67460

APR 25 10 24 AM '97

OFFICE OF
SUSAN NESS
COMMISSIONER

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of General Counsel

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CC96-45



Central Community Unit District No. 4

Serving the Communities of Ashkum, Chebanse and Clifton, Illinois

Richard Bukowski, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools
155 E. Fourth Ave., Box 637
Clifton, IL 60927
Phone 815-694-2231

Jerome Pankey
Principal, Central High School
3100 N. Central High School Road
Clifton, IL 60927
Phone 815-694-2321

April 18, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

As an administrator, I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for schools and libraries as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November. In advance, I thank you for your dedication in ensuring that schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Recommended Rules allow schools and libraries significant discounts for the telecommunications and **critical, non-telecommunications** services necessary to assure that **all** of our schools are connected to the Internet, and other on-line resources, that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that Schools and Libraries would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. We emphasize that the inclusion of inside classroom connections for discounts is vital. Also, by allowing that the inclusion telco and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our schools and libraries--and, ultimately--for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Bukowski
Superintendent

APR 23 10 29 AM '97

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

active member

CC 96-45

Central Community Unit District No. 4

Serving the Communities of Ashkum, Chebanse and Clifton, Illinois



Richard Bukowski, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools
155 E. Fourth Ave., Box 637
Clifton, IL 60927
Phone 815-694-2231

Jerome Panke
Principal, Central High School
3100 N. Central High School Road
Clifton, IL 60927
Phone 815-694-2322

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Advocacy

April 18, 1997

Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

As a teacher, I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for schools and libraries as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November. In advance, I thank you for your dedication in ensuring that schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Recommended Rules allow schools and libraries significant discounts for the telecommunications and **critical, non-telecommunications** services necessary to assure that **all** of our schools are connected to the Internet, and other on-line resources, that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that Schools and Libraries would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. We emphasize that the inclusion of inside classroom connections for discounts is vital. Also, by allowing that the inclusion telco and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our schools and libraries--and, ultimately--for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard Weakley
Technology Coordinator

APR 25 10 24 AM '97

OFFICE OF
COMMUNICATIONS
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

R.R. 1 BOX 314

HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651

JAMES J. LEBDA, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

JAMES DUGAN
BOARD SECRETARY-BUSINESS MANAGER

MARSHALL J. WAGNER
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
THOMAS C. SNYDER
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

April 22, 1997

Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing in reference to the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide important discounts to educational institutions for all telecommunications connections within the classrooms of our schools.

As Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District, I can assure you that we are committed to providing our students with every possible opportunity to benefit from recent and ongoing technological developments. However, as a rural school district in an economically impoverished area, we simply cannot afford costs associated with the expansion of such opportunities to all of our students. The discounts offered in the Joint Boards recommendations are essential to our efforts to provide rural students with the same equal opportunity as that available in wealthier school districts.

I encourage you to support the Joint Boards recommendation and provide schools like Moshannon Valley with much needed discounts for services and/or internal connections essential to continued growth and expansion of these wonderful technological opportunities.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

James J. Lebda
James J. Lebda, Ed.D.
Superintendent

APR 25 1997

RECEIVED
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 23, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am the Business Manager of the Donegal School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

As the Business Manager of the district, I am a part of our organization's attempts to maintain a balanced budget that does not burden the local taxpayers while delivering a quality educational service to the local community.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

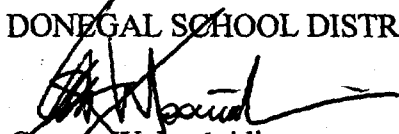
The discounts that we would receive would enable us to provide Internet access to all our students and members of our educational community. These discounts would also allow us to divert our diminishing monetary resources to the attention of our facilities and infrastructure that house our students and equipment.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT


George W. Ioannidis
Business Manager

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MAY 1 1997


Donegal
School District

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Administrative Office

366 South Market Avenue
Mount Joy, PA 17552-2700

717 653-1447 • Fax 717 653-4088

APR 25 10:23 AM '97
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS



Harmony Union School District

P.O. Box 279
4008 Bohemian Highway
Occidental, California 95465
(707) 823-6220
Fax (707) 823-8224

Superintendent/Principal
Harmony Elementary School
Rick Brewer

April 22, 1997

Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Harmony Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Madill
Board President

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Principal
Salmon Creek Middle School
Lauren Leach

Business Manager
Regina Calvi

Board of Trustees
John Daly
Victoria Johnston
Cindy Madill
Bruce McCann
Mary Szecsey

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El Segundo Unified School District

641 SHELDON STREET • EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245
(310) 615-2650 • FAX (310) 640-8272

CC96-45

SUPERINTENDENT

WILLIAM N. MANAHAN, Ed. D.

April 21, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 "M" Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHRISTINE M. SHERRILL
President

CHRIS J. POWELL
Vice President

MARGARET D. ECHEVARRIA
Clerk

RICHARD A. CROXALL
Member

KENNETH N. SCHOFIELD
Member

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. As the Superintendent of Schools of the El Segundo Unified School District, I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and, more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC Commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

William N. Manahan, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

WNM:rh

*Dedicated to providing students and the community
with an optimum learning environment that prepares educated, productive,
compassionate citizens to meet the challenges of a global society in the 21st Century.*

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of General Counsel

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Vidda Brough, Principal
Burnett Elementary School
5403 W. 138th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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SUSAN NESS

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

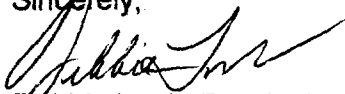
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Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Debbie Loob, Principal
Dana Middle School
13500 Aviation Blvd.
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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SUSAN NESS

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

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COMMUNICATIONS

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Comitz

Jane Comitz, Principal
Cabrillo Elementary School
5309 W. 135th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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SUSAN NESS

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a school principal from Wiseburn School District in Hawthorne, CA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

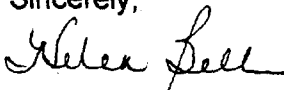
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Here in the 4-school Wiseburn Elementary District, we have passed a bond to re-wire the electrical systems of our schools so that each classroom will have 10 or more outlets, instead of the 2 that were included 20 to 40 years ago, when the schools were built. We will also be installing Cat 5 wiring, at least 5 drops per room, to support computer networking. We will start with the phone company's Education First ISDN lines between the schools and our district office, where network access arrives from the County Office of Education. Later on, we hope to install fiber between some of the schools (which happen to be located geographically close together), while retaining a paid telco connection to the more distant school. Your rate reductions will help us there, as well as in our connection to the County, which we will probably want to upgrade from ISDN to T1 as more classrooms come online. Your discount to schools for installation costs of wiring, routers and servers may allow us to have some money left over to buy workstations

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Helen Bell
Principal, Anza Elementary School
5234 W. 120th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250

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SUSAN NESS
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P.O. Box 280 • 220 5th Avenue • Turtle Lake, North Dakota 58575 • (701) 418-2331

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MAY 1 1997

SENT BY FAX: 202-418-2100

April 25, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Suite 832
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Ness:

I am writing in regards to the FCC's upcoming vote concerning the "universal policy" on the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Community Memorial Hospital has had a Telemedicine Program in place for nearly 2 years with St. Alexis Medical Center located in Bismarck, ND which is approximately 60 miles from our local community of Turtle Lake. Our present costs for Telemedicine lines are \$1,100 monthly to maintain this service to our local patients. Our facility wants to maintain quality medical services to our local communities.

Telemedicine is a vital tool in making vital patient assessments, physician education, and referral patterns through rural hospitals. We wish to continue those services to our patients. However, if the cost to provide the Telemedicine programs to a rural area continue to be this expensive, there is little if any benefit to the rural hospitals to continue these services. All we ask is to be on an even playing field with the urban communities.

I encourage you to support subsidies to the rural hospitals schools, and libraries and make our country more "communication friendly" as you vote on the "universal service" policy on the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Dale Aman
Administrator

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SUSAN NESS
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General Acute Care • Emergency Services • Extended Care • Clinic Services

St. Alexis Medical Center

NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

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COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
APR 25 2 43 PM '97

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness: :

I am a Board Member from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.


The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Paul Malley
Board Member